

Marxism 2009 Program

Thursday 9th April - 6:30pm

Public meeting: Challenging capitalism and war: featuring a left wing activist from Egypt **Mamdouh Habashi**, American socialist and author of a new book on the Vietnam War **Joe Allen** and Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Sandra Bloodworth**.

Friday 10th April

- 10am** • *Marxist foundations:* The Russian revolution: The real story
• Sri Lanka: Where Trotskyism became a mass movement
• Trading in pollution: Environmental destruction & the fallacy of market solutions
- 11:30 am** • Bubble to Bust: The Global Economy Today with Deutscher prize winning author **Rick Kuhn**
• *Marxist foundations:* Do revolutions always end in dictatorships?
• Australia and the “Good War”: Opposition and Resistance during WW2 with **Tom O’Lincoln** author of a new book on the period
• Does the “Russia question” still matter for the left?
- 2pm** • Q and A with renowned investigative reporter and documentary filmmaker **John Pilger**
• Standing up to imperialism and war: an **eye witness account from Lebanon**
- 4pm** • What does the Obama presidency mean for world politics with American socialist **Joe Allen**
• The Northern Territory intervention: the latest racist land grab
• A history of Anarchism – a Marxist critique
- 7pm** • Debate on way forward for the union movement

with **Tom Bramble** author of a new book on the history of the Australian union movement
• Fighting back against capitalist crisis: a first hand report on worker and student resistance in Greece with Greek activist **Thanasis Kourkoulas**
• *Marxist foundations:* What is the revolutionary attitude to violence and non-violence?

Later • Red Shelley: The life and times and revolutionary poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley with Luke Wilson

Saturday 11th April

- 10am** • *Marxist foundations:* Is human nature a barrier to radical change?
• Are Western workers a labour aristocracy?
• When the Diggers took on the Scabs – Retaking the Waterfront in 1919 with radical historian Robert Bollard
- 11:30 am** • *Marxist foundations:* Socialist Alternative: Who are we? What do we stand for?
• What the world economic crisis means for socialists
• Comrades Come Rally: the formation of the Australian Communist Party
- 2pm** • A report on working class resistance in the Middle East by **Mamdouh Habashi** from Egypt
• Panel on Gay Liberation Movement with **Liz Ross**, Daniel Marshall and another special guest
• Animal Farm and 1984: Was Orwell anti-socialist?
- 4pm** • *Marxist foundations:* Why do we need a socialist organisation?
• The origins of Bolshevism in Russia: a new interpretation

• The Marxist theory of sexism, oppression and class
• Why does capitalism go into crisis?

7pm • The socialist answer to capitalist crisis with a range of international speakers and Vashti Kenway from Socialist Alternative

9pm • Film Screening of the anti-war film Taliban Country
• Radical history tour of Melbourne University conducted by Mick Armstrong

Sunday 12th April

- 10am** • *Marxist foundations:* Why a class analysis matters to changing the world
• Class and sect in the Middle East
• The red in the rainbow – the struggle for sexual liberation
- 11:30 am** • *Marxist foundations:* The capitalist state: what it is and how to challenge it
• Understanding exploitation – the labour theory of value
• As the miracle economy falters: a **special guest from Hong Kong** reports on the emerging workers movement in China
- 2pm** • The ABC of Marxist Economics
• Does the Marxist theory of imperialism need updating?
• More than a year of hard Labor: Rudd and Australian politics today
- 4pm** • Lenin’s What is to be done – a re-interpretation
• Why changing the world means taking power
• *Marxist foundations:* Sexism and 21st century capitalism: Why are women still oppressed?